

**** Bill No. ****

Introduced By *****

By Request of the *****

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act creating a permanent Indian education council; providing for appointment of council members by tribal governments to staggered terms; outlining duties and requiring annual reports to the governor, the board of public education, and the office of public instruction; and providing an immediate effective date."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Indian education council -- composition -- duties.** (1) There is an Indian education council. The council is composed of:

(a) one representative of each of the seven reservations, appointed by the governor from a list of up to three nominees provided by each of the respective tribal governments; and

(b) one person appointed by the governor from a list of up to three nominees submitted by the Little Shell band of Chippewa Indians.

(2) Members of the council shall serve staggered 2-year terms. A vacancy on the council must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment and only for the unexpired portion of the term.

(3) The council shall:

Unofficial Draft Copy

As of: August 25, 2006 (11:07am)

LC9996

(a) advise the governor, the board of public education, and the superintendent of public instruction in educational matters affecting the education of Indian students, including accreditation, certification, and teacher training;

(b) promote equal educational opportunity and improve the quality of education provided American Indian students throughout the state;

(c) advocate for, monitor, and evaluate the implementation of Article X of the Montana constitution for all educational agencies;

(d) facilitate communication about Indian education among all stakeholders in Montana;

(e) develop strategies of communication to allow constituents to provide input to the council on the needs and issues related to Indian education;

(f) identify and disseminate research-based measurable criteria, both behavioral and academic, that indicate successful education for Montana's Indian children;

(g) collect and analyze data to monitor accountability of educational agencies to address the needs of Indian education;

(h) encourage and promote the active participation of Indian people, tribes, and tribal organizations in the education process;

(i) prepare budgetary recommendations to be submitted to the governor and the office of public instruction for programs that affect the council's duties as outlined in this section;

(j) monitor and advocate legislation that potentially

affects Indian education in Montana;

(k) present an annual report to the governor, the board of public education, and the office of public instruction; and

(m) perform any other duties necessary to implement the provisions of this part.

(4) The council is allocated to the governor's office for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121.

(5) Members of the council shall serve without pay but are entitled to reimbursement for travel, meals, and lodging pursuant to 2-18-501 through 2-18-503.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. {standard} Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 1, part 5, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 1, part 5, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. {standard} Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -

{Name : Eddy McClure
Title : Staff Attorney
Agency : Legislative Services Division
Phone : 444-3804
E-Mail : emcclure@mt.gov}